

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A method for assembling a flap and seal system for a gas turbine engine exhaust nozzle including a plurality of backbone assemblies, said method comprising:

attaching an attachment system including at least one strap to a basesheet; and

coupling the basesheet to a backbone using the attachment system strap.

2. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the basesheet includes a flowside and an opposite back side, attaching an attachment system further comprising:

attaching a plurality of straps to the basesheet; and

attaching at least one strap to the basesheet back side.

3. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein coupling the basesheet to a backbone further comprises coupling the basesheet to the backbone such that each attachment system strap receives a hook extending from the backbone therethrough.

4. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein coupling the basesheet to a backbone further comprises coupling the basesheet to the backbone using a mounting tab extending from the basesheet.

5. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein coupling the basesheet to a backbone further comprises orienting the basesheet relative to the backbone with the attachment system.

6-20. (canceled)